

APPENDIX I – CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION ON THE POSITIVE LIST OF REPTILES

Of the reptile species specified on the positive list, only individuals bred in captivity may be kept. The trading and keeping of reptiles captured from the wild is therefore not permitted. The current prevalence of the species in captivity was taken into account when compiling the list. The species included comply with the following criteria:

1. EASY TO KEEP

1.1 Housing easy to realise

A novice reptile keeper can readily realise suitable housing (accommodation layout and dimensions, nature of the materials) which satisfies the physiological, ethological and ecological requirements.

1.2 Natural habitat easy to replicate

A novice reptile keeper can readily create an environment (including temperature, lighting, (air) humidity, ventilation, substrate and enrichment) in which the reptile species can exhibit as natural a behaviour as possible.

1.3 Food readily obtainable

A novice reptile keeper can readily purchase suitable food that satisfies the nutritional requirements of the reptile species.

1.4 Manageable size

Larger reptile species are more difficult to handle and, due to their size, typically require larger terrariums. The risk of incorrect handling increases with large species, particularly with novice reptile keepers. Incorrect handling can have a negative effect on animal welfare and may lead to injuries in the reptile.

1.5 Sensitivity

More sensitive reptile species are at an increased risk of developing health and welfare problems (such as stress, injury, disease) in the event that their management is suboptimal, and are therefore unsuitable for novice reptile keepers.

1.6 Species protection

The positive list must avoid reptile species for which there are clear indications that, in the event of escape from captivity, the specimen can survive in nature and pose an ecological threat to natural populations and/or manifest itself as an invasive species.

2. POSES NO DANGER TO HUMANS

The reptile poses no danger to humans. The approach and handling of dangerous animals is more difficult than those that pose no danger to humans. This increases the risk of injuries to the reptile keeper and the reptile as a consequence of incorrect handling, particularly in the case of novice reptile keepers. The incorrect approach and handling of dangerous animals also compromises the welfare of the reptile.

It is also more difficult for dangerous reptiles to find shelter accommodation in the event of keeper illness or death, or their surrender of the animal.

3. SUFFICIENT INFORMATION AVAILABLE

There is sufficient detailed information available for novice reptile keepers pertaining to the conditions and requirements for keeping the specific reptile species in captivity.